

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :

Eric Benazzi et al.

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Serial No.: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

For: FLEXIBLE PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF OIL BASES WITH A ZSM-48 ZEOLITE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

2. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the hydrofinishing catalyst of stage (e) comprises an amorphous substrate, at least one noble element of group VIII, chlorine and fluorine.

3. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein hydrotreatment stages (a) and hydrocracking stages (b) are carried out in the same reactor.

4. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein hydrotreatment stages (a) and hydrocracking stages (b) are carried out in different reactors.

5. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein during stage (c) of atmospheric distillation, a residue with an initial boiling point of higher than 370°C is obtained that then undergoes the catalytic dewaxing of stage (d).

6. (Amended) A process according to claim 5, further comprising recycling the hydrocracking residue at least in part to at least one of the hydrotreatment stage and the hydrocracking stage.

7. (Amended) A process according to claim 5, further comprising subjecting at least a portion of the hydrocracking residue to an additional hydrocracking stage that is different from stage (b), whereby the effluent that is obtained is recycled to atmospheric distillation stage (c), and the other portion of the residue is treated in dewaxing stage (d).

8. (Amended) A process according to claim 5, further comprising the residue obtained from the atmospheric distillation of stage (c) to an extraction of aromatic compounds (stage c'), and catalytically dewaxing the resultant residue in stage (d).

9. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, resulting in the production of white oils that have aromatic compound contents of less than 0.01% by weight.

Please add the following new claims:

10. (New) A process according to claim 6, further comprising the residue obtained from the atmospheric distillation of stage (c) to an extraction of aromatic compounds (stage c'), and catalytically dewaxing the resultant residue in stage (d).

11. (New) A process according to claim 7, further comprising the residue obtained from the atmospheric distillation of stage (c) to an extraction of aromatic compounds (stage c'), and catalytically dewaxing the resultant residue in stage (d).

12. (New) A process according to claim 5, wherein the hydrofinishing catalyst of stage (e) comprises an amorphous substrate, at least one noble element of group VIII, chlorine and fluorine.

13. (New) A process according to claim 6, wherein the hydrofinishing catalyst of stage (e) comprises an amorphous substrate, at least one noble element of group VIII, chlorine and fluorine.

14. (New) A process according to claim 7, wherein the hydrofinishing catalyst of stage (e) comprises an amorphous substrate, at least one noble element of group VIII, chlorine and fluorine.

15. (New) A process according to claim 8, wherein the hydrofinishing catalyst of stage (e) comprises an amorphous substrate, at least one noble element of group VIII, chlorine and fluorine.

16. (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein the hydrofinishing catalyst of stage (e) comprises an amorphous substrate, at least one noble element of group VIII, chlorine and fluorine.

17. (New) A process according to claim 10, wherein the hydrofinishing catalyst of stage (e) comprises an amorphous substrate, at least one noble element of group VIII, chlorine and fluorine.

REMARKS

The amendments to the claims are made to delete multiple dependence and to correct obvious typographical errors. It is respectfully submitted that no new subject matter has been added and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,


I. William Millen Reg. No.19,544
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

Attorney Docket No.: PET-1977

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The claims have been amended as follows:

2. (Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the hydrofinishing catalyst of stage (e) comprises an amorphous substrate, at least one noble element of group VIII, chlorine and fluorine.
3. (Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein hydrotreatment stages (a) and hydrocracking stages (b) are carried out in the same reactor.
4. (Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein hydrotreatment stages (a) and hydrocracking stages (b) are carried out in different reactors.
5. (Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein during stage (c) of atmospheric distillation, a residue with an initial boiling point of higher than 340°C 370°C is obtained that then undergoes the catalytic dewaxing of stage (d).
6. (Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to claim 5, wherein further comprising recycling the hydrocracking residue is recycled at least in part ~~in~~ to at least one of the hydrotreatment stage and/or ~~in~~ the hydrocracking stage.
7. (Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to claim 5, wherein further comprising subjecting at least a portion of the hydrocracking residue ~~undergoes to~~ an additional hydrocracking stage that is different from stage (b), whereby the effluent that is obtained is recycled to atmospheric distillation stage (c), and the other portion of the residue is treated in dewaxing stage (d).

8. (Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to one of claims 5 to 7, wherein claim 5, further comprising subjecting the residue that is obtained from the atmospheric distillation of stage (c) ~~is subjected~~ to an extraction of aromatic compounds (stage c'), and the raffinate that is ~~obtained is catalytically dewaxed~~ catalytically dewaxing the resultant residue in stage (d).

9. (Amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of the preceding claims for claim~~
1, resulting in the production of white oils that have aromatic compound contents of less than
0.01% by weight.

Claims 10-19 have been added.